

October 29, 2002

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Office of the Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW, Room TW-325
Washington, DC 20554

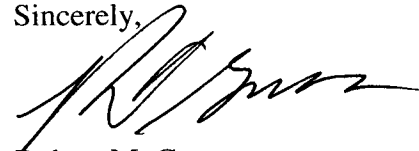
Re: Improving Public Safety Communications in the 800 MHz Band
WT Docket No. 02-55

Dear Ms. Dortch:

In a September 23, 2002, filing with the Commission, the "Consensus Parties" indicated that they expected to file detailed funding arrangements on or about October 23, 2002. This letter serves to indicate that the parties have made considerable progress and that the supplemental comments will be forthcoming soon. It will, however, take slightly more time than anticipated due to the breadth of issues to be submitted. In addition to funding arrangements, the Parties will be addressing border regions, timing and logistics, as well as post-retuning rights and responsibilities under the Consensus Plan.

We thank you for your attention in this matter. We look forward to supplying the Commission with supplemental comments that further clarify and detail critical elements of the plan, which the Parties believe offers the most feasible, effective and practicable long-term solution for eliminating public safety interference at 800 MHz.

Sincerely,



Robert M. Gurs
Counsel for APCO

Consensus Parties:

Aeronautical Radio, Inc. (ARINC)
The American Mobile Telecommunications Association (AMTA)
The American Petroleum Institute (API)
The Association of American Railroads (AAR)
The Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials-
International, Inc. (APCO)
The Forest Industries Telecommunications (FIT)
The Industrial Telecommunications Association, Inc. (ITA)
The International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP)
The International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC) and International
Municipal Signal Association (IMSA)

The Major Cities Chiefs Association (MCC)
The Major County Sheriffs' Association (MCSA)
The National Sheriffs' Association (NSA)
The National Stone, Sand & Gravel Association (NSSA)
Nextel Communications, Inc.
PCIA – The Wireless Infrastructure Association (PCIA)
The Taxicab, Limousine and Paratransit Association (TLPA)

cc: The Honorable Michael K. Powell
The Honorable Kathleen Q. Abernathy
The Honorable Michael J. Copps
The Honorable Kevin J. Martin